STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN ON THE PASSING OF FORMER FCC COMMISSIONER JAMES OUELLO

"I almost missed meeting Commissioner Jim Quello last month. I drove up and down Army Navy Drive for almost 30 minutes searching for his annual holiday party. Lost and frustrated, I was just about to call it quits when finally I arrived.

"As I walked into the room, I was reminded of some of those larger-than-life stories I have often heard about the Commissioner. Quite frankly, they made me fairly anxious about meeting him. But once we were introduced, my uneasiness quickly transformed into a peaceful admiration.

"He acknowledged his health challenges, but before long I became convinced that I would still be dancing with him at his 100th birthday celebration.

"Sadly, that will not come to pass. I will always cherish, however, the memory of our brief time together.

"Others have known him longer. Many have shared incredible stories that bring laughter and an understanding that unfortunately I will never share. But my one encounter with Jim Quello has inspired me to continue my quest to be a bold, dedicated public servant.

"And for that, I will remain forever grateful."